

Summary of DAT Conference Call 10/28/2008

Participants: SGreene(DWR), JOber(DWR), CStroble(DWR), RShahcheraghi(DWR), JAdib-Samii(DFG), JSpeegle(FWS), JSnow(Westlands), JWhite(DFG), MFord(DWR), PCarillo(FWS), BFujimura(DFG), TBoardman(DMWA), PBrandes(FWS), GAasen(DFG)

Conclusions and Recommendation

The September Fall Mid-water Trawl Delta Smelt Index is 2. DFG caught 3 delta smelt in September mid-water trawl in the lower Sacramento River and western Delta. DFG completed the October Midwater trawl sampling last week, and is working on the samples and data analysis. So far DFG caught 2 delta smelt in Montezuma Sl., and 10 longfin smelt between San Pablo Bay and the eastern Delta.

No operational changes were recommended at this time.

Next DAT Conference Call Tuesday, 11/18/2008, 9 am - 11 am. 916/657-4111.

Chinook Monitoring

Upper Sacramento River

Red Bluff Diversion Dam – Juvenile winter run passage averaged 2,600/day for the past week and has been decreasing for the last two weeks. The passage to date this season, Jul 1 through Oct 27, is 1.135 million. FWS expects the majority of the juvenile winter run have emigrated past Red Bluff.

Late fall Chinook passage was approximately 195/day. Steelhead passage was approximately 100/day. Spring- and fall-run passages were 400/day and 40/day, respectively.

Red Bluff flow is 6,600 cfs and the water is clear.

FWS posts biweekly reports on the Bay-Delta and Tributaries Project website, at http://baydelta.ca.gov/Php/Special_Reports/red_bluff.php

Mill Creek – DFG installed the rotary screw trap on 10/17. They caught one yearling in 10/24.

Deer Creek – DFG is in the process of re-locating the rotary screw trap.

Butte Creek – no update.

GCID – DFG caught an average of about 30 older juvenile Chinook per day the last two weeks, and 1 younger juvenile Chinook per day. They caught the first steelhead of the season 10/22. Attached is a graph from DFG with the emigration of juvenile Chinook for the season. This graph is only available through the end of September now. I will send an updated graph through October when it is available.

Knights Landing – DFG installed the rotary screw trap 10/3/2008. They caught on younger juvenile Chinook 10/27.

Delta Monitoring

In the last week 1 older juvenile Chinook and 1 splittail was recovered at Chipps Island. Two delta smelt were recovered in the Central Delta seines.

Sacramento Kodiak Trawl – FWS trawled 4 days; no species of special interest.

Lower Sacramento River seine -2 sample days, 7 samples. No other species of special interest.

Sacramento Area seine – FWS is sampling 5 days/week. No species of special interest.

North Delta seine - 2 sample days, 14 samples. No species of special interest.

Central Delta seine - 2 sample days, 11 samples. No other species of special interest.

South Delta seine - 2 sample days, 14 samples. No species of special interest.

Mossdale Kodiak Trawl - 5 sample days, 50 samples. No species of special interest.

San Joaquin River seine - 1 sample day, 6 samples. No species of special interest.

Chipps Island Midwater Trawl – FWS is sampling 3

days/week. In the last 4 sample days, 52 samples, FWS caught 1 Chinook. No other species of special interest.

Bay seine - 2 sample days, 9 samples. No species of special interest.

Delta Smelt Monitoring

Fall Mid-water Trawl – The September FMWT survey is complete. The delta smelt September index is 2. Three delta smelt were caught in the lower Sacramento River and Cache Slough. The October FMWT sampling is completed, but the data is being processed.

Salvage Facilities

Chinook – None
Steelhead – None
Delta smelt – None
Splittail – None
Longfin smelt - None
Green Sturgeon – None
White Sturgeon – None
Threadfin shad at the CVP and blue gill at SWP.

The DFG Salvage Database can be accessed at this ftp site. <ftp://ftp.delta.dfg.ca.gov/salvage/>.

Salmon Studies

FWS is discussing order of DCC position treatments with the PIs. Under the current schedule, the DCC is open in mid- to late-December. Hindman sent an email to organize a meeting with Jon Burau next week. First sets of releases is planned for Nov 14th the DCC gates open. Pat Brandes, FWS Stockton will have 150 VEMCO tagged fish released; about 95 at Sacramento and 50 at Georgiana Slough.

Fall Attractions Flows on the San Joaquin

Fall attraction flows on the San Joaquin are complete. Spawning flows on the Stanisluas are now 250 cfs, on the Tuolumne 150 cfs, and on the Merced 230 cfs.

Head of Old River and Agricultural Barriers

The Fall HORB was completed 10/16. A notch was cut to provide salmon passage and all 6 culverts are closed.

Middle River closed with all culvert flap-gates operating

tidally. Old River closed with 3 culvert flap-gates tied open and 6 tidal. Grant Line Canal fully closed with all culvert flap-gates tidally operated.

Operations

SWP -

CCFB – 400 cfs
Oroville - 1,500 cfs
X2 - >81 km (
E/I - 3-day ~45.9%
San Luis - ~147 taf, capacity is 1.062 taf

CVP -

Tracy PP – 3,400 cfs
DCC - open
Trinity –
Clear Creek -
Keswick –7,500 cfs
Nimbus – 1,000 cfs
Goodwin –cfs
San Luis - 97 taf. Capacity is 966 taf

Flows

Sacramento River at Freeport ~ 7,006 cfs
San Joaquin River at Vernalis ~ 1,052 cfs
Delta Outflow ~ 2,600 cfs

Delta Water Quality

Water quality is good.

October Water Quality Standards –

Delta Outflow – monthly average $\geq 3,000$ cfs, 7-day average $\geq 2,000$ cfs.

E/I Ratio – 14-day average = 65%

Contra Costa Canal – CI ≤ 150 mg/L – this standard has been met.

South Delta – 30-day average EC ≤ 1.0

Suisun - EC ≤ 19 , gates are operating

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